

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
 MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
 Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581
 (508) 792-7270 x 165

RARE PLANT OBSERVATION FORM

OBSERVER INFORMATION

Observer's Name, Address, and Phone:

Arthur Haines

Woodlot Alternatives, Inc.

122 Main Street

Topsham, ME 04086

207-729-1199

Species Scientific Name:

Schoenoplectus acutus

NHESP Element Occurrence Number (if known):

Observation Date: 28 September 2000

Today's Date: 3 October 2000

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

a) USGS Quad Name and Series (7.5"x7.5" or 7.5"x15"): 1:25,000

Pittsfield East

County: Berkshire

Town: Hinsdale

b) Directions to location of observations (please attach USGS map):

East shore of Muddy Pond, centered around point of land where Pond bends to the east.
 Accessed from Route 8, to the Valley Road, crossing over train tracks and driving
 North to a small canoe/boat launch.

c) Habitat: (plant communities, associated vegetation, physical characteristics, geological features, surrounding land use.

Are other rare species present?)

Deep emergent marsh with *Nuphar variegatum*, *Myrica gale*, *Decodon verticillatus*, *Potamogeton*
nataus, *Brasenia schreberi*, *Nymphaea odorata*. Plants are growing in 30-100 cm of water
 just off a *Carex lasiocarpa* dominated shoreline.

POPULATION INFORMATION:

Population found? (Y/N):

If No, is population presumed extirpated and why?

If Yes,

Number of mature plants: As few as 5 individuals around SE end of Lake. Ramets > 10,000.

Number of immature plants:

Number of plants age unknown:

Population area (give unit of measurement): ca. 120 x 20 meters

Percent of population:

in leaf: 10

in bud:

in flower:

with immature fruit:

mature fruit: 50

senescent: 40

Observations of floral visitors, fruit dispersers:

None observed, though some muskrat behavior noted.

Vigor of individuals and population:

Apparently healthy. Moderately large population. Plants beginning to senesce.

Evidence of expansion or decline:

None observed

Have you observed this species at this site in previous years? yes

Please give details:

Observed the following year. Population appears similar to previous year.

SITE PHYSIOGRAPHY

Elevation: 440 m

Topographic position (crest, upper slope, mid slope, lower slope, bottom?):

Aspect (north, south, east, west, flat?): Southwest

Slope (0-20 degrees, 20-45 degrees, 45-75 degrees, vertical?): 0°

Light (open, filtered, shade?):

Moisture (inundated, wet, mesic, dry, xeric?):

Soil types: Mucky Mineral

Surficial rock types (with percent of ground covered): NA

Bedrock/parent material: unknown

Surficial water (distance away and source): 0 cm, Muddy Pond

MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

MNHESP Site Name (if any):

Managed Area (if any): Hinsdale Flats State Wildlife Management Area

Comments/Management recommendations:

Disturbance or threats (natural or unnatural) to population:

None observed

Land Owner's Name, Address, and Phone:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Ownership Comments:

ELEMENT OCCURRENCE (EO) SUMMARY

(Circle one choice in each category)

EO Quality

How representative is this occurrence? Consider the size and productivity of the population and the vitality and vigor of the individuals.

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: moderately large population (in terms of ramets)

EO Condition

Is the habitat supporting the EO pristine or degraded? Is there a potential for the habitat to recover from disturbances?

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Wetlands have been bisected by railroad, otherwise in good condition

Comments:

EO Viability

What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments:

EO Defensibility

Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Public ownership of property

EO RANK

A summary of all factors listed above.

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (if any)

Populations are mixed with hybrid colonies of *Schoenoplectus acutus* x *tabernaemontani*.
See detailed map.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify under pains and penalties of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Auth. Haines*

Date: 3 October 2000

Please submit form, a copy of a USGS topo map showing plant location, and all supporting documentation to the State Botanist at:

Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270 ext 200

Thank you for contributing to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program database. Your efforts are valuable and appreciated.

